December 5, 1958

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

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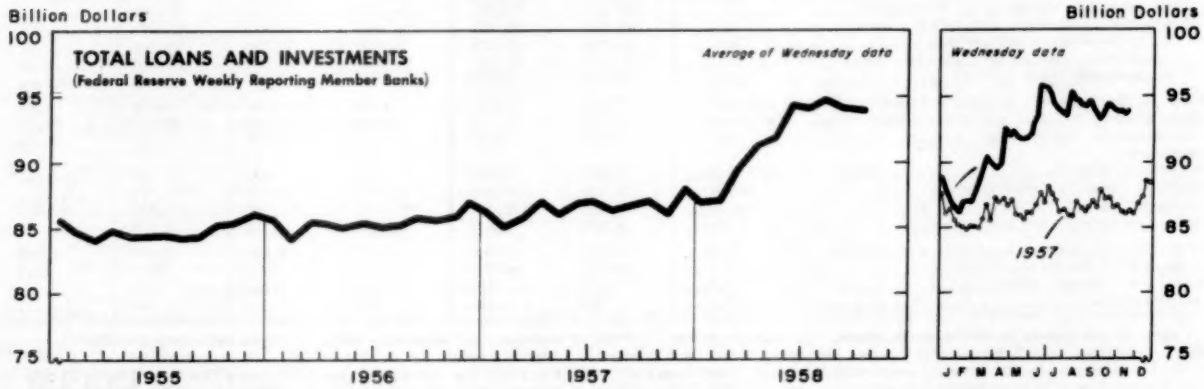
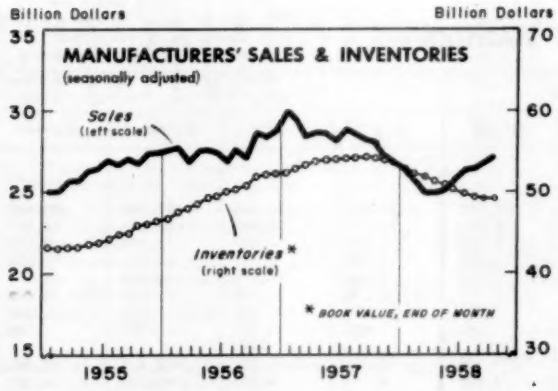
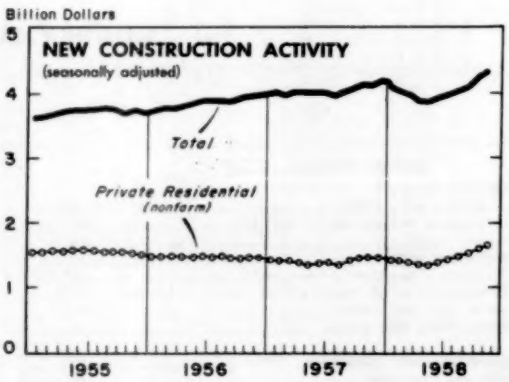
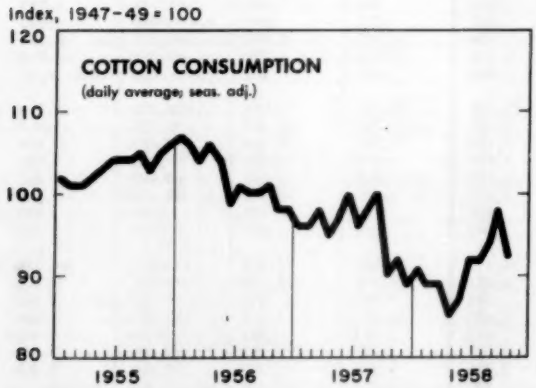
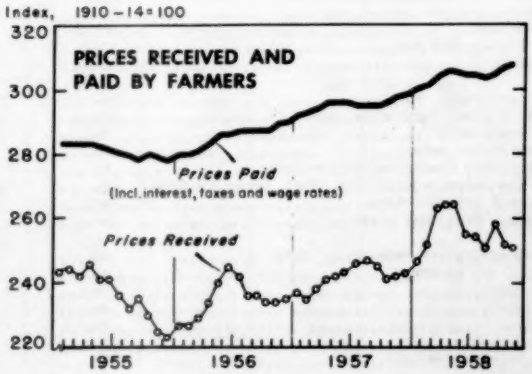
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS











WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1957		1958			
	Nov. 23	Nov. 30	Nov. 8	Nov. 15	Nov. 22	Nov. 29
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*118.1	.....	119.2	119.1	119.1
Farm products.....do....	.....	*91.9	.....	92.2	91.8	91.7
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*106.5	.....	109.7	108.8	108.6
All other.....do....	.....	*125.9	.....	126.8	126.8	126.9
22 commodities 2/.....do....	84.9	84.4	**87.6	**88.3	87.8	87.9
Department store sales.....do....	166	170	148	157	169	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,635	1,850	#1,885	#1,947	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,490	1,689	1,688	1,743	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	308	235	331	274	260	244
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	31,336	31,431	31,419	31,660	31,754	31,825
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	25,489	25,325	26,694	27,100	27,087	27,399
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,987	18,907	18,416	18,510	18,340	18,631
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	528	446	449	622	467	465
Reporting member banks (of F.R.System) in leading cities: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	55,110	55,464	56,494	56,874	56,846	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	23,721	23,767	28,152	27,987	27,884	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	86,332	86,072	93,942	93,710	93,977	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	24,938	25,010	31,522	31,288	31,268	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do....	31,794	31,527	30,444	30,602	30,608	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,777	8,777	9,385	9,429	9,476	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	4.49	4.47	4.42	4.41	4.39	4.38
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/...1941-43=10..	39.92	41.25	52.03	53.05	53.20	51.90
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	42.93	44.41	55.65	56.74	56.84	55.39
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,599	1,637	1,433	1,467	1,458	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	12,136	11,613	12,311	12,378	12,579	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	175,451	132,107	150,117	141,385	163,565	142,371
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,833	6,829	7,003	6,968	6,975	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	1,945	1,846	2,011	2,011	2,000	1,988
Percent of capacity.....	##76.0	##72.1	74.5	74.5	74.1	73.7
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	633	554	658	644	619	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	323	284	328	327	320	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning December 1, 1958: Production, 2,013 thous. short tons; operating rate, 74.6 percent. * Monthly index for November 1957. ** Wednesday price. # Excludes 417,000 and 416,000 insured unemployed reported under temporary programs (TUC) for November 8 and 15, respectively; includes claims under Ex-Servicemen's Unemployment Compensation Act of 1958 (UCX) effective October 27, 1958. ## Based on January 1, 1957, annual capacity (133,459,150 tons); not comparable with 1958 rates which are based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1957		1958			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Manufacturers' sales:						
Value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	28,171	29,532	24,845	26,143	r27,298	28,945
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	13,664	14,386	11,317	11,880	r12,687	13,705
Primary metal.....do....	2,200	2,336	1,632	1,900	r2,069	2,308
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,631	1,688	1,433	1,592	r1,696	1,679
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	4,293	4,406	3,455	3,615	r3,993	4,101
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	2,750	3,003	2,436	2,103	r2,093	2,619
Lumber and furniture.....do....	995	1,026	757	894	r933	967
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	695	761	662	710	r757	796
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	14,507	15,146	13,528	14,263	r14,611	15,240
Food and beverage.....do....	4,493	4,660	4,414	4,452	r4,571	4,722
Tobacco.....do....	374	377	410	387	r398	411
Textile.....do....	1,104	1,214	936	1,098	r1,131	1,233
Paper.....do....	932	981	871	960	r958	1,033
Chemical.....do....	2,013	2,086	1,865	1,983	r2,137	2,157
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,719	2,866	2,750	2,787	r2,774	2,874
Rubber.....do....	462	524	473	442	420	.....
Value (adjusted), total.....do....	28,215	28,064	26,284	26,388	r26,778	27,229
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	14,132	13,932	12,256	12,385	r12,723	13,013
Primary metal.....do....	2,182	2,224	1,917	1,984	r2,065	2,189
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,547	1,535	1,454	1,482	r1,593	1,564
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	4,314	4,265	3,808	3,817	r3,999	3,981
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	3,407	3,297	2,550	2,582	r2,438	2,616
Lumber and furniture.....do....	940	930	836	832	r850	885
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	668	650	676	657	r701	686
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	14,083	14,132	14,028	14,003	r14,055	14,216
Food and beverage.....do....	4,278	4,331	4,371	4,373	r4,312	4,372
Tobacco.....do....	378	356	390	372	r386	388
Textile.....do....	1,040	1,029	1,061	1,077	r1,027	1,054
Paper.....do....	932	917	937	941	r949	965
Chemical.....do....	1,951	2,002	1,979	2,003	r2,071	2,071
Petroleum and coal.....do....	2,803	2,895	2,806	2,787	r2,860	2,903
Rubber.....do....	481	490	478	438	438	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Includes data for "other industries" not shown.

ITEM	1957		1958			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS - Continued						
Manufacturers' inventories, end of month:						
Book value (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	53,581	53,734	49,357	48,887	r48,910	48,937
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	31,306	31,487	28,116	27,658	r27,745	27,714
Primary metal.....do....	4,401	4,488	4,050	4,100	r4,099	4,131
Fabricated metal.....do....	3,061	3,017	2,898	2,777	r2,785	2,807
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	10,475	10,390	9,290	9,110	r8,918	8,868
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	7,843	8,115	6,384	6,302	r6,718	6,736
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,832	1,804	1,786	1,725	1,691	1,653
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	1,201	1,197	1,228	1,196	r1,164	1,152
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	22,275	22,247	21,241	21,229	r21,165	21,223
Food and beverage.....do....	4,837	4,929	4,468	4,644	r4,736	4,862
Tobacco.....do....	1,940	1,960	1,726	1,746	r1,783	1,838
Textile.....do....	2,561	2,515	2,584	2,499	r2,432	2,336
Paper.....do....	1,396	1,395	1,413	1,404	r1,391	1,384
Chemical.....do....	3,641	3,658	3,708	3,674	r3,647	3,672
Petroleum and coal.....do....	3,705	3,732	3,314	3,340	r3,349	3,380
Rubber.....do....	1,031	1,053	960	963	983	.....
Book value (adjusted), total.....do....	54,166	54,103	49,777	49,425	r49,296	49,300
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	31,820	31,754	28,311	28,066	r28,048	27,979
Primary metal.....do....	4,344	4,356	4,122	4,110	r4,043	4,004
Fabricated metal.....do....	3,123	3,143	2,814	2,777	r2,842	2,893
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	10,658	10,583	9,323	9,221	r9,074	9,032
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles).do....	8,049	7,979	6,584	6,536	r6,751	6,674
Lumber and furniture.....do....	1,877	1,880	1,773	1,742	r1,732	1,722
Stone, clay, and glass.....do....	1,251	1,273	1,228	1,220	r1,212	1,226
Nondurable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	22,346	22,349	21,466	21,359	r21,248	21,321
Food and beverage.....do....	4,684	4,725	4,706	4,638	r4,598	4,660
Tobacco.....do....	2,000	1,980	1,836	1,838	r1,838	1,857
Textile.....do....	2,631	2,625	2,550	2,524	r2,499	2,439
Paper.....do....	1,410	1,423	1,413	1,418	r1,405	1,412
Chemical.....do....	3,741	3,732	3,722	3,734	r3,747	3,747
Petroleum and coal.....do....	3,597	3,623	3,314	3,274	r3,271	3,282
Rubber.....do....	1,074	1,097	980	1,024	1,024	.....
Manufacturers' orders:						
New orders, net (unadjusted), total.....do....	26,371	26,730	25,239	26,096	r26,830	28,581
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,047	11,788	11,667	11,807	r12,301	13,372
Primary metal.....do....	2,039	2,027	1,768	2,006	r2,136	2,339
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,571	1,517	1,501	1,599	r1,673	1,642
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,812	3,798	3,601	3,666	r4,020	3,949
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	1,979	1,776	2,366	1,866	r1,630	2,529
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	14,324	14,942	13,572	14,289	r14,529	15,209
New orders, net (adjusted), total.....do....	26,565	26,226	26,450	26,096	r27,021	27,825
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	12,519	12,154	12,512	12,177	r12,859	13,511
Primary metal.....do....	2,202	2,081	2,044	2,063	r2,334	2,412
Fabricated metal.....do....	1,496	1,459	1,501	1,523	r1,578	1,578
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	3,952	3,943	3,770	3,851	r4,242	3,998
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	2,300	2,079	2,691	2,245	r1,946	2,695
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	14,046	14,072	13,938	13,919	r14,162	14,314
Unfilled orders, end of month (unadjusted), total.....do....	55,993	53,191	46,747	46,700	r46,232	45,868
Durable-goods industries, total 1/.....do....	53,179	50,581	44,036	43,963	r43,577	43,244
Primary metal.....do....	5,840	5,531	3,694	3,800	r3,867	3,898
Fabricated metal.....do....	4,090	3,919	3,102	3,109	r3,086	3,049
Machinery (including electrical).....do....	18,919	18,311	16,230	16,281	r16,308	16,156
Transportation equipment (incl. motor vehicles)...do....	19,650	18,423	16,884	16,647	r16,164	16,094
Nondurable-goods industries, total.....do....	2,814	2,610	2,711	2,737	r2,655	2,624
FINANCE						
Agricultural loans and discounts outstanding of agencies supervised by the Farm Credit Adm.:						
Total.....mil. of dol..	3,354	3,354	3,725	3,766	3,784	3,802
Farm mortgage loans: Federal land banks.....do....	1,896	1,904	2,002	2,017	2,036	2,052
Loans to cooperatives.....do....	430	451	425	453	473	507
Other loans and discounts.....do....	1,027	999	1,298	1,295	1,275	1,243
Life insurance written (new paid-for insurance):						
Value, estimated total.....do....	4,689	6,126	5,196	5,086	5,056	5,504
Group and wholesale.....do....	685	1,538	633	869	666	759
Industrial.....do....	555	567	530	548	557	579
Ordinary.....do....	3,449	4,021	4,033	3,669	3,833	4,166
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (incl.foreign ore), operations in all U.S. districts:						
Receipts at iron and steel plants.....thous. of long tons..	16,107	16,276	12,445	11,769	12,150	12,645
Consumption at iron and steel plants.....do....	10,481	10,272	6,624	7,419	7,900	9,128
Stocks, end of month, at furnace yards.....do....	57,486	63,557	53,725	58,075	62,325	65,843
Stocks, end of month, at U. S. docks.....do....	4,358	4,888	4,869	5,399	5,687	5,856
Electrical equipment:						
Ranges (incl. built-ins), dom. and export sales..thousands..	124.8	120.4	98.5	r81.4	r121.8	135.7
Vacuum cleaners, standard type, sales billed.....do....	302.9	328.7	263.8	280.2	299.6	339.1
Washers, sales billed (domestic and export) 2/.....do....	392.7	377.6	277.3	326.8	423.1	404.1
Radio sets, production 3/.....do....	1,610.7	1,569.2	621.5	1,028.9	r1,572.0	r1,305.9
Television sets (incl. combination), production 3/....do....	832.6	662.0	275.0	507.5	621.7	r495.6

r/ Revised. 1/ Includes data for "other industries" not shown. 2/ Data exclude sales of combination washer-dryer units; sales of such types totaled 22,800 units in October 1958. 3/ Data for September 1957 and September 1958 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

9181

ITEM	1957		1958			
	October	November	August	September	October	November
COMMODITY PRICES						
Prices received and paid by farmers:						
Prices received, all farm products.....1910-14=100..	241	242	251	258	252	251
Crops.....do....	225	223	225	232	227	225
Commercial vegetables, fresh market.....do....	226	234	181	183	210	245
Cotton.....do....	273	263	281	292	281	274
Feed grains and hay.....do....	156	150	163	160	153	145
Food grains.....do....	219	221	190	195	199	200
Fruit.....do....	188	187	239	280	245	227
Oil-bearing crops.....do....	231	235	232	220	214	215
Potatoes (including dry edible beans).....do....	153	167	142	129	118	129
Tobacco.....do....	483	473	483	482	501	485
Livestock and products.....do....	255	258	275	280	275	274
Dairy products.....do....	278	280	255	264	271	272
Meat animals.....do....	275	277	338	339	330	326
Poultry and eggs.....do....	181	188	166	174	164	164
Wool.....do....	280	271	210	207	202	203
Prices paid:						
All commodities and services.....do....	273	275	281	281	282	283
Family living items.....do....	286	289	291	290	291	293
Production items.....do....	258	260	269	272	271	272
All commod., services, int., taxes, and wage rates..do....	296	298	304	305	307	308
Parity ratio.....do....	81	81	83	85	82	81
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
New construction (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	4,609	4,208	r4,707	r4,751	r4,726	4,416
Private, total.....do....	3,143	3,020	r3,153	r3,172	r3,173	3,087
Residential (nonfarm).....do....	1,586	1,524	r1,708	r1,732	r1,753	1,709
New dwelling units.....do....	1,180	1,140	r1,275	r1,315	r1,335	1,315
Additions and alterations.....do....	357	333	r382	r366	r364	337
Nonresidential buildings, total 1/.....do....	844	842	743	r741	r750	760
Industrial.....do....	289	287	179	174	175	178
Commercial.....do....	330	332	316	r315	r319	327
Farm construction.....do....	133	114	r173	r161	r134	114
Public utilities.....do....	564	525	r512	r520	r519	487
Public, total.....do....	1,466	1,188	r1,554	r1,579	r1,553	1,329
Nonresidential buildings.....do....	409	367	r428	r430	r426	379
Military facilities.....do....	132	108	120	r135	r140	125
Highway.....do....	604	425	r635	r645	r630	485
New construction (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	4,166	4,137	r4,041	r4,119	r4,261	4,346
Private, total.....do....	2,912	2,917	r2,799	r2,847	r2,934	2,983
Residential (nonfarm).....do....	1,461	1,472	r1,496	r1,540	r1,613	1,650
Nonresidential buildings, total 1/.....do....	798	796	702	r695	r706	717
Industrial.....do....	283	281	179	172	172	175
Commercial.....do....	306	305	294	r291	r296	302
Farm construction.....do....	133	134	r133	135	r134	134
Public utility.....do....	504	500	r453	r460	r464	464
Public, total.....do....	1,254	1,220	r1,242	r1,272	r1,327	1,363
Nonresidential buildings.....do....	391	381	r383	r390	r405	395
Military facilities.....do....	111	104	102	r112	r118	120
Highway.....do....	451	443	r432	r436	r470	505

r/ Revised. 1/ Except farm and public utility.
USCOMM-DC-9181

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